

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's allowance of claims 29-34, and the Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of claims 4 and 9-12 are respectfully acknowledged.

Claims 10-12 have been amended to depend from allowed claim 32, and claim 10 has also been amended to make a minor grammatical improvement.

In addition, new claims 37 and 38 have been added depending from claims 33 and 34, respectively, to recite that the first shutter mechanism is provided at a laser output terminal of the first laser oscillator, and the second shutter mechanism is provided at a laser output terminal of the second laser oscillator, as formerly recited in (now canceled) allowed claims 29 and 30.

No new matter has been added, and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 10-12 and the addition of claims 37 and 38 be approved and entered, and it is respectfully submitted that claims 10-12, 37 and 38 are now all in condition for immediate allowance, along with their allowed parent claims.

Claims 1-9, 13-30, 35 and 36, moreover, have been canceled, without prejudice.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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